

# JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانكليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

## Kuwait to back loan to Spain

KUWAIT, Dec. 29 (R). — The Kuwait government is to guarantee a \$500 million loan to Spain which is to be raised in Kuwait and other Arab countries, the newspaper Al Rai Al Aam said here today. Quoting authoritative sources, the newspaper said the loan would be in the form of a bond issue and that an official Spanish delegation was due to arrive here shortly to finalise arrangements. The said the loan was decided in response to a request for help from Spain and in appreciation of Spain's pro-Arab policies.

## Saudi Arabia lifts ceiling on oil production

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia, Dec. 29 (R). — The Saudi Arabian government has lifted the ceiling on oil production by the Arabian-American oil company (Aramco), industry sources said here today. The average daily production during December stood at 8.8 million barrels, a million barrels higher than the daily average for the past year. Aramco has the capacity to produce more than 11 million barrels a day, the sources added.

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## From party leadership Peres supporters mount offensive to oust Rabin

TEL AVIV, Dec. 29 (Agencies). — Behind-the-scenes manoeuvres intensified in Israel's ruling Labour Party today as supporters of Defence Minister Shimon Peres cautiously began their long-awaited offensive to depose Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. Peres' moves to secure the party leadership, and subsequently the premier's post, were prompted by Mr. Rabin's resignation on Dec. 21. Mr. Rabin's intentions was to provoke new elections to give him a powerful new mandate for negotiations with the Arab states.

But Mr. Peres, 53, has long been waiting to attempt a takeover and since Mr. Rabin only narrowly defeated him for Premier Golda Meir's succession in April 1974.

Mr. Peres argues that Rabin's unpopular austerity measures will bring heavy losses for the Labour Party in the coming poll which is expected on May 17.

Theoretically, a party convention should choose between the two men in early February.

But the powerful inner party machinery, long attacked in Israel as being anti-democratic in its methods, was already reported to be seeking ways of making the choice itself.

Party bosses are reported to feel that a two-month continuation of the Peres-Rabin rivalry could be fatal to the party at election time. They want to appoint a definite candidate as soon as possible to "ad them to the polls."

The inner core of the party's machinery is made up of an "old hand" of veteran Zionist Labour leaders including Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz and the ever dynamic Mrs. Meir who is 78.

There is little basic difference in the political stance of Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres, and the rivalry has become increasingly personal.

They were even reported to have traded insults at times during cabinet meetings.

In a related development, the outgoing government of Premier Rabin lost a close vote today in the Knesset when the rightwing opposition Likud Party attracted the backing of former Rabin allies for forced arbitration of work conflicts in vital services.

The draft law, passed on the first reading by 55 votes to 53, would make arbitration obligatory in any worker conflict before recourse to a strike in "services of major public interest."

President Marcos was speaking at a joint meeting here of his cabinet and the National Security Council, which he convened to study the implications of the preliminary peace accord reached in negotiations held in Tripoli, Libya, from Dec. 15-23.

The accord called for a ceasefire in the four-year-old Moslem rebellion for self-rule in the southern Philippines effective last Dec. 24, and for the establishment eventually of an "autonomous" Moslem region.

President Marcos said he believed the Philippine government position in the upcoming talks "should be flexible... should be always an accommodating one which will not however prejudice our national interest."

"We must think of our national interest," he said.

As to the area to be covered, he said earlier this week that this would be determined by a plebiscite to be held in 13 rebellion-hit provinces.

Today, President Marcos revealed that the MNLF was opposed to a plebiscite, adding that the

The Likud-sponsored bill obtained the support of the religious parties, but Moked deputy Meir payil and the Rakah Communist Party voted with the government. Political observers here said passage of the bill on the first reading was a defeat for Mr. Rabin's Labour Party, whose political strength has traditionally been based on the General Labour Confederation. The bill will not, however, become law until further consultations are carried out, the observers noted.

## Richard favours a "neutral British presence" in Rhodesia

LUSAKA, Dec. 29 (R). — Rhodesian conference chairman Ivor Richard, who arrives in Zambia tomorrow to begin his "shuttle" mission in Southern Africa, said today that Britain wants to play a transitional role in Rhodesia but has no wish to run it again as a colony.

Mr. Richard told reporters before leaving London today that he was not too discouraged at the opposition expressed by Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith to any British involvement in an interim Rhodesian government.

Mr. Richard said that "the only way of producing an agreement is to insert a neutral British presence -- somebody who can constitutionally hold the balance between the two sides."

Mr. Smith will make a new year's address on Friday and is expected to reiterate that Anglo-American proposals for bringing majority black rule to Rhodesia within two years are not negotiable. Diplomats in Lusaka said it seemed that Mr. Richard was keen to sound out Mr. Smith personally before proceeding with subsequent stages of his three-week African tour.

But before going to Rhodesia and four other states, Mr. Richard -- seeking ways of making progress at the slow-moving conference -- will first confer with Zambian President Kaunda on Friday.



FORD HITS THE SLOPES -- President Ford chats with his daughter Susan as they walk towards the ski lifts on Vail Mountain Tuesday morning. The Fords are in the final week of their holiday vacation at the Colorado ski resort. (AP wirephoto).

Mr. Richard has said he will be explaining to Southern African leaders his ideas for a British role in the proposed interim government for Rhodesia.

In an interview with the South African newspaper Die Vaderland today Mr. Smith said he seriously doubted that it would be possible for the Geneva conference to be resumed on Jan. 17 as planned by Britain.

Problems which had to be sorted out before the conference reconvened were too great to allow any hope of a resumption before the second half of January and it was not certain whether the venue would still be Geneva, the Rhodesian premier said.

A spokesman for the new party said it would be instrumental in bridging the gap between the government and the country's black nationalist groups.

He said ZUPO would enjoy the support of most of the country's six million blacks through the system of the traditional tribal chiefs.

The party was dedicated to black majority rule in the shortest possible time, thus halting "this stupid loss of life" -- a reference to the guerrilla war.

The party was supported by about 250 tribal chiefs and 450 village headmen, the spokesman said.

It supported democratic institutions, free enterprise and membership of the free world and would seek an end to intimidation and racial discrimination.

The party was assured of "ample financial support from many quarters," the spokesman said.

For some time now the government has been trying to persuade "moderate" Africans to participate in attempts to resolve the Rhodesian constitutional dispute.

The formation of ZUPO was believed here to have the government's full support.

It was not known whether ZUPO would seek representation at the constitutional conference on Rhodesia which is due to be resumed in Geneva on Jan. 17.

President Marcos, whose opening remarks at today's meeting were broadcast on radio, said the Security Council would be meeting anew next Monday when it would hear from the Philippine negotiating panel "the more confidential aspects" of the agreement not reflected in the written text.

## Situation in south Lebanon deteriorates

TYRE, Lebanon, Dec. 29 (Agencies). — Rightwing forces today fought machinegun battles with Palestinians and Lebanese leftists in sensitive border areas of Lebanon still not supervised by the Arab peace-keeping force.

As tension in the hill country near the Israeli frontier ran high, there was no evidence that the peace force, which is imposing a civil war truce in the rest of the country, was about to move in.

There was no word on casualties in the sporadic clashes, which took place near the rightist stronghold of Qleia.

Rightist leaders accuse Palestinians of creating an explosive situation in south Lebanon by moving heavy arms there.

The Palestinians say they are merely complying with a plan by the 30,000-strong peace force to remove heavy arms used in the civil war away from Beirut and other major towns.

Reports yesterday spoke of a contingent of troops from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) heading for this southern port.

"The first I heard about it was on a foreign radio station," Lt.-Col. Abdullah Ali, commanding the UAE contingent of 1000 men told Reuters. He was stationed about 70 kms. from Tyre.

Palestinian sources meanwhile have accused the rightists and the Israelis of jointly bombarding Palestinian positions in the southern Marjayoun region yesterday.

Leftist leader Kamal Junblatt has accused rightwing Phalangists of dynamiting 47 deserted Moslem houses in Tarshish, east of Beirut. He said the dynamite was smuggled into the mountain village in two coffins, according to a statement by the leftist national movement.

Three brigades of the Palestine Liberation Army which arrived from Egypt, Iraq and Syria during

the civil war have meanwhile begun returning to their bases, the Lebanese weekly Al Hawadess reported. It said that 7,000 men from the brigades had already left on two boats from Sidon and Tyre.

The speaker of Lebanon's parliament, Mr. Kamel Al As'ad, said in Beirut last night he expected a "legal force" to be deployed in south Lebanon within 15 days.

The speaker declined to say whether this would be an Arab League detachment or one from a reconstituted Lebanese army.

Israel wants Lebanese forces to police the south, which is a traditional base area for Palestinian commandos.

Political talks on the problem of southern Lebanon were scheduled today in Libya, where Lebanese Premier Selim Al Hoss as arrived. Yesterday, in Cairo, Mr. Al Hoss declared the problem a "joint Arab responsibility".

Lebanon's Foreign and Defence Minister Fuad Butros discussed the reorganisation of the Lebanese army, which is directly linked to security in southern Lebanon, with Syrian leaders today during his second visit to Damascus in one week. President Sarkis has said he would like to get the army reorganised gradually while the Arab force maintains order in Lebanon.

Official sources in Damascus said that Mr. Butros handed Syrian President Hafez Assad a message from President Sarkis on the situation in Lebanon.

Mr. Butros also had talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

In Beirut, Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat met with Soviet Ambassador Alexander Soldatov today to discuss the south. He was given a message from Soviet party chief Leonid Brezhnev.

Lebanese emissary Gbassan Touni, just back from the United States, said today Lebanon could count on aid from the U.S., the United Nations, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund.

All were prepared to provide aid which would be broken down into four categories: social aid and aid for urgent needs, financial and economic assistance, medicine and material, and technical aid.

No figures were advanced, the amounts to be backed on the country's needs and pending a precise request from the government, he said.

In Doha, officials said that Qatar disbursed \$3 million today for maintaining the Arab League's peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

The payment is one-third of the total contribution Qatar will make, they disclosed.

The cost of keeping 30,000 soldiers from various Arab countries in Lebanon for six months has been estimated at \$90 million.

## Kuwait to form a senate, press report says

KUWAIT, Dec. 29 (R). — The Kuwait government is thinking seriously of establishing a senate, the Kuwait newspaper Al-Anba' said here today.

It said three studies on such assemblies and the way they work in other countries have been prepared and presented to the Ministry of State for Legal and Administrative Affairs but that officials were reluctant to talk about the subject.

The government dissolved this Gulf state's elected National Assembly in August after accusing it of abusing democracy.

## Spanish police clamp down on news conference by Italian deputies

MADRID, Dec. 29 (R). — Police today stopped a delegation of Italian members of parliament giving a news conference on their efforts to obtain the release of jailed Spanish Communist Party leader Santiago Carrillo.

The Italians protested strongly and said they would demand to see Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez.

The five-man delegation has tried in vain for two days to see government officials about Senor Carrillo whose arrest sparked protests by thousands of people in Madrid last week.

As the press conference began in a luxury Madrid hotel, two plainclothes policemen entered the hotel salon and said the conference was suspended because it was an unauthorised meeting.

Italian Communist deputy Giuseppe d'Amela said: "In all the democratic countries of Europe we can talk without special authorisation."

He said it was obvious that reports that Spain was changing and becoming a democracy were false.

Italian Social Democrat deputy Carlo Fracanzani, speaking for the five-man delegation, said the suspension was a "serious violation of fundamental freedoms."

He and his colleagues would make a firm protest in Italy and to international organisations with which they are associated, he added.

In a written statement distributed to the journalists present, the Italians said they had not been al-

lowed to see any member of the Spanish government to discuss the arrests a week ago of Senor Carrillo and seven other senior Communist Party members.

"The delegation considers this attitude unjustifiable and contrary to all international principles and customs," the statement said.

It said a possible trial of Senor Carrillo for his political views, and the attitude of the Spanish government, "increase doubts about the proclaimed desire of the Suarez government really to carry out the process of establishing democratic guarantees in Spain."

Without true democratic change, based on the full establishment of all political rights, there was no way Spain could achieve closer relations with West Europe. Spain's relations with the Common Market would have to be reconsidered, the statement said.

The Italian delegation was the first to come to Spain to protest the arrests and it was due to return to Rome later today. French, Dutch and British delegations are also expected to arrive.

Spanish opposition parties negotiating with the government on political reform and new election regulations said last night the imprisonment of Senor Carrillo was a serious obstacle to democratic progress.

Madrid police arrested the delegation of Italian members of parliament giving a news conference on their efforts to obtain the release of jailed Spanish Communist Party leader Santiago Carrillo.

Police reinforcements were called to the Ministry of Justice where the demonstrators chanted "Free Carrillo" and "Total amnesty."

That clashes later spread to Madrid's main shopping avenue where pedestrians fled for cover as police beat groups of young demonstrators. Eyewitnesses said several arrests were made.

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## In national radio broadcast MARCOS: ROUGH GROUND AHEAD IN SECOND ROUND OF TALKS WITH MORO NATIONALISTS

MANILA, Dec. 29 (AFP). — President Ferdinand Marcos said today tougher talks lay ahead before a final solution could be reached to the southern Philippine Moslem problem, and flexibility was needed to ensure the success of negotiations.

President Marcos was speaking at a joint meeting here of his cabinet and the National Security Council, which he convened to study the implications of the preliminary peace accord reached in negotiations held in Tripoli, Libya, from Dec. 15-23.

The accord called for a ceasefire in the four-year-old Moslem rebellion for self-rule in the southern Philippines effective last Dec. 24, and for the establishment eventually of an "autonomous" Moslem region.

President Marcos indicated that the autonomy would be "limited."

How it would be defined would be decided in a second round of negotiations to be held also in Tripoli from Feb. 5 to March 3.

He said the February talks "may be more crucial, more difficult" in the light of the fact that the first conference was several times threatened with collapse.

Libya and the Islamic conference helped mediate the December talks between a panel representing the Marcos martial law regime and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), spearhead of the rebellion in the Mindanao-Sulu region.

President Marcos said he believed the Philippine government position in the upcoming talks "should be flexible... should be always an accommodating one which will not however prejudice our national interest."

"We must think of our national interest," he said.

interest, but at the same time we must not impose such conditions that it will cause another awkward termination of the efforts to settle the Mindanao conflict," the president said.

President Marcos said the December talks nearly broke down twice on the issue of the meaning of autonomy and what provinces should be covered by the future autonomous region.

As a compromise, President Marcos said he suggested that autonomy "will be limited within the provisions of the constitution, without any specific statement, so that we can all agree."

As to the area to be covered, he said earlier this week that this would be determined by a plebiscite to be held in 13 rebellion-hit provinces.

Today, President Marcos revealed that the MNLF was opposed



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## Cheering for disaster

The decision by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates at the Doha meeting of OPEC ministers earlier this month, to keep their oil price rise to five per cent against the two-stage 15 per cent rise voted by the other 11 OPEC member states, has now been followed by the apparent Saudi decision to raise oil production next year by nearly 20 per cent. As was to be expected, this now sets the stage for what the Western world hopes will be a savage, no-holds-barred, knock-down drag-out price war among the two camps in OPEC. It takes only a cursory scanning of the Western landscape to see that many people in Europe and North America are eagerly looking forward to this inter-OPEC battle with anticipation, if not glee.

Our feeling is that a price war is wishful thinking, because the facts and economics of international oil -- and the peculiar relationships and long-term interests of OPEC members -- are clearly lined up against any such price battle. If Saudi Arabia increases production by 1.5 million barrels a day (to a daily average of, say, 10 million barrels), it would require only a five per cent production cutback by the rest of OPEC to balance this out and maintain the supply-and-demand forces that are now in effect in the international oil market. A five per cent cutback -- coupled with a 10 per cent price rise in January -- will have no major effect on the income of the OPEC producers, and certainly nowhere near enough to cause any individual producers to start offering large enough discounts to trigger what would be called a price war. In any case, most OPEC members, especially key producers such as Iran, Iraq and Kuwait, have experienced semi-annual fluctuations in output of up to 25 per cent of their total production, and thus a five per cent cutback to them would be closer to a routine matter than a crisis one.

Furthermore, the anticipated increase in international oil demand throughout 1977 and well beyond will soak up the added Saudi production and will probably require increased production by all the OPEC states by the second half of 1977 -- when the group of 11 OPEC members will increase the price of their oil by another five per cent. This increase in world demand will come about because of many factors, the most important of which are the expected 1977 re-expansion of the major Western economies, thus requiring added energy supplies for both industrial and consumer uses, the return of normally cold winter weather after several mild seasons, the continuing decline in domestic oil production in the United States and the initiation of the American plan to buy and stockpile several hundred million barrels of oil.

The most interesting thing today is not how the OPEC states are reacting, but rather how the industrial oil importers of the West are reacting. They are watching carefully to see whether the OPEC nations slug it out for oil sales to the West, probably in places even preparing to promote such a slugfest. The Western nations and oil companies have done it before and it is not beneath them to try it again. But the West should take another look at its glee. It is neither in the interest of the Western oil importers or the OPEC producers to revert to a situation where oil is priced at \$2 a barrel, and where the OPEC states pump out as much as the West demands. This is an insane policy that will hurt all of mankind in the long run, in 30 or 50 years, if not sooner. The reaction of the West today is indicative of a lack of both energy policies and common sense, both of which one would have expected the West to acquire in the three years that have passed since the 1973 energy "crisis". If the West is worried about a difference of \$1 in the price of a barrel of oil today, it will have far greater worries when that oil is unavailable to its children at any price 50 years from now.

Where are the men and women of vision and responsibility in Europe and North America who will dare ask these difficult questions in public, instead of leading the cheering for an OPEC price war that will not take place?

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The Jordanian newspapers Al several dangerous questions, Ra'i and Al Dustour Wednesday editorially commented on an apparent Israeli campaign against the Geneva Middle East peace conference.

Al Ra'i says that, as was expected, the Arab "ceremonial peace offensive" brought an Israeli reaction in the opposite direction.

The paper was referring to Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Alon's statement Tuesday in which he remarked that the Geneva conference will only be a "ceremonial occasion" for putting signatures... This means, the paper says, that Alon wants to negotiate on a bilateral basis, through the United States, and then all parties would go to Geneva and sit before the T.V. cameras for pictures...

Alon also suggested that Tel Aviv cannot allow the Soviet Union to play a major role in the Middle East issue for the simple reason that the Soviet Union doesn't have normal relations with Israel. This point, Al Ra'i says, raises serious questions.

## Tourism team will hold talks in Damascus

AMMAN (JNA). — A touristic delegation leaves for Damascus Thursday morning. The delegation will be headed by Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat, who will hold talks with his Syrian counterpart, Mr. Ghassem Shalhoub, on touristic co-ordination between the two countries.

The delegation will also discuss with Syrian officials the setting up of tourist resthouses on the international road from Aqaba to the Turkish borders, a project decided upon by the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee.

In Damascus, the Syrian minister of tourism met a delegation representing an Italian company specialised in building prefabricated houses.

Discussion centred on the possibility of building rest houses in Syria and Jordan, a ministry source announced.

The Italian company expressed its willingness to submit detailed specifications for building 10 small hotels in the near future. This will be studied at the meeting of the joint Jordanian-Syrian committee.

## Cabinet approves 1977 budget

AMMAN (JNA). — The country's 1977 budget was approved in its final form by the Cabinet at its Wednesday evening session. Minister of Finance Mohammad Dabbas will hold a press conference Saturday afternoon to explain its various aspects.

## EEC-Jordan agreement to be initialled

AMMAN (JNA). — An economic cooperation agreement will be signed between the European Economic Community (EEC) and Jordan, Syria and Egypt, as a group, in Brussels on Jan. 18.

The agreement covers financial aid to the three countries and lighter customs duties on agricultural exports to the EEC.

The agreement was initialled between the EEC and Jordan in Brussels on Oct. 28 by Jordan's ambassador in Bonn.

## CIVIL AVIATION MEET SCHEDULED

AMMAN (JNA). — A joint meeting between Jordanian and Syrian civil aviation authorities is scheduled to take place early next month. Syrian sources said that the meeting would discuss executive steps to be taken in the field of joint air operations on long-haul routes, especially joint flights linking both Damascus and Amman with New York.

## Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fil for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.S. dollar	330.0	332.0
U.K. sterling	562.0	568.0
Swiss franc	135.2	135.3
German mark	140.4	140.8
French franc	66.9	67.2
Italian lira		
(for every 100)	37.8	38.0
Syrian pound	82.5	82.8
Lebanese pound	115.3	116.7
Saudi riyal	94.5	95.2
Iraqi dinar	947.0	955.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1157.0	1165.0
UAE dirham	83.5	84.2
Libyan dinar	715.0	730.0
Egyptian pound	462.0	472.0

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## 35 villages to receive water

AMMAN (JNA). — A new agreement which will provide 35 villages with water was signed by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and a French company, unnamed by the Jordan News Agency, Wednesday.

The new agreement is an appendix to a former one undertaken by the same company to drill 20 villages with supplies. New wells, install water pipelines and electricity generators and to build houses for workers at the Qa'a 682,000. Work on both projects is expected to be completed at the end of 1977, the minister added.

## Minister to head Arab social affairs conference

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Labour Isam Ajlouni will head another delegation to the 17th Jordan's delegation to the third conference of Arab experts on social affairs, due to be held in Riyadh on Jan. 17, 1977, it was announced Tuesday.

The delegation will include Mr. Khalid Radaydeh, Director of the Social Affairs Department, and a number of officials in the ministry. Prior to the ministerial conference, the implementation of recommendations taken at the second conference of Arab ministers of social affairs, the Arab social development fund project and the role of scientific research in social planning.

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## Forestry Institute starts meet here

AMMAN (JNA). — The Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Salah Jum'a, Wednesday opened the 8th conference of the Arab Institute of Forestry at the Directorate of Agricultural Research and Guidance to discuss ways to develop forests in the Arab world.

The conference, which was convened at the invitation of the Jordanian Government, is attended by representatives from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and the Arab League.

Stressing the importance of forestry development in the Arab world, Mr. Jum'a, in a speech delivered at the opening session, called on the institute to work closely with the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development, as it is the only specialised Arab body equipped to deal such activities.

The conference afterwards elected Jordan's representative to the meetings, Dr. Abdul Rahim Al-Tali, Director of Forestry and Pa-

## Badran presides over supply meet

AMMAN (JNA). — Prime Minister Mudar Badran presided over a meeting at the Prime Ministry Wednesday noon to discuss Jordanian-Syrian cooperation in establishing grain silos in Jordan to stock the necessary quantities needed for present and future consumption.

The meeting was attended by the ministers of Agriculture, Supply and Industry and Commerce, the president of the National Planning Council and a number of Syrian officials.

## JORDANIAN SENTENCED TO DEATH BY EGYPT

CAIRO (AFP). — Samir Tamimi, a Jordanian citizen, was sentenced to death by Egypt's supreme military court today on charges of spying for Israel, the Middle East News Agency reported.

Mr. Tamimi was arrested in October 1975, three days after his arrival in Cairo. The news agency said Israeli intelligence had also sought to recruit his wife as a spy, but she had informed the Egyptian authorities.

## Irbid implements electricity projects

IRBID (JNA). — The Irbid Electricity Authority is currently erecting high tension transmission lines and transformer stations to supply electric power to a number of villages in the Irbid district at a cost of JD 35,000, the authority's administrative director, Mr. Rida Salim said Wednesday.

The project, to be completed within two months, will provide electricity to the villages of Sama, Mazra, Kafir Al Ma', Zahar, Khalidiyah and Aydon.

Other projects under study cover the electrification of seven new villages in the Irbid district at a cost of JD 350,000.

A pilot plan has been drawn up to electrify 127 villages in the Irbid countryside during the next nine years. The project will cost JD 6 million, he said.

## National Notes

● AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable of congratulations to King Birendra of Nepal on the occasion of his 30th birthday and Nepal's National Day.

● AMMAN. — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Wednesday morning received Sheikh Mohammad Ali Al Ja'bari to discuss conditions in the occupied West Bank. Premier Badran also received Jordan's Permanent Representative at the United Nations, Dr. Hazem Nuselbeh, and Mr. Fawwaz Abu Al Ghanam, Jordan's newly appointed ambassador to Greece.

● AMMAN. — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim Wednesday morning received the ambassadors of Kuwait, Spain, and Italy.

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# Saudi intentions on oil production have those Western "observers" off and speculating

PARIS, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Saudi Arabia's reported intention to boost its oil output to counter the 10 per cent increase in crude prices announced by 11 other oil producers has triggered considerable speculation in Western capitals this week.

The report, carried by the authoritative Beirut weekly Middle East Economic Survey, was interpreted by some Western commentators as an indication that Saudi Arabia had unleashed a "price war" inside the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

At a meeting of OPEC oil ministers in Doha, Qatar, less than two weeks ago, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates refused to increase their crude prices by more than five per cent as from Jan. 1, while their 11 partners announced a 10 per cent increase on that date, to be followed by another rise of five per cent on July 1.

French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud said in a television interview today that he believed an increase in Saudi output would "oblige" all its OPEC partners to "align themselves on the price it has fixed."

Predicting a "fairly reasonable overall increase... in the area of five per cent," the French minister stressed that "Iran and the other producer countries are faced with a fairly difficult situation."

Mr. De Guiringaud said that following the Doha meeting, there was certainly a "crack in OPEC".

But it was in his view premature to say whether the common front of producers would break down.

International energy experts here said they were convinced that the two-tier oil price system which will come into being on Jan. 1 would not last for any extended period of time.

But they said it was "exaggerated" to speak of a "price war" inside OPEC at this juncture, and felt there was little reason to believe that the organisation might collapse.

These sources said some experts believed the effective overall increase would be in the area of five per cent as hinted by Mr. De Guiringaud, while others believed it might attain around seven per cent.

However, sources close to the

International Energy Agency, which groups the leading industrial oil consumer countries, said the whole situation was so confused that it was hard to have any clear idea about what would happen.

Informed observers here noted that Saudi Arabia, which together with the UAE accounts for about one-third of OPEC's total crude oil output, because of its production capacity and reserves is the only country that could directly interfere with world oil output and thus influence price levels.

The Saudi government, which opposed any substantial price rise in order to allow the Western countries more time for economic recovery, could therefore at least theoretically make its own views prevail and limit the effective

price increase to five per cent. Observers here noted a report from Jakarta yesterday which indicated that, while formally raising its prices by 10 per cent, Indonesia was in fact prepared to toe the Saudi line by granting its customers a discount of up to five per cent.

However, it was still an open question how the other 10 OPEC countries would react to a boost to Saudi crude output. Algerian Minister Belaid Abdesselam said in Doha two weeks ago that such a move would amount to "political aggression against OPEC".

Algeria and other "hard-liners" inside OPEC, including Iran, Iraq and Venezuela, have hinted that other OPEC countries might react to such a step by reducing their own production.

Reports from Kuwait that Iran had requested an extraordinary meeting of OPEC oil ministers to adopt a common stance on production policies were denied today by the Iranian news agency in Tehran. But observers here did not rule out the possibility that at some point to overcome the dispute inside OPEC.

So far, Saudi Arabia seems to be sticking firmly to its position. Economically, it can afford to do so, observers said. For while Saudi domestic financial needs would be met through an output of only 3.5 million barrels a day, the country's present production is about 8.5 million barrels.

And a possible decision to boost it further to 10 million barrels would clearly be politically motivated.

Observers said the Saudi leadership is interested in political stability in the West, and concerned about the possibility of leftwing governments taking over in Western European countries.

They said Saudi Arabia, which has itself considerable interests in the West, would therefore like to help avoid an economic crisis in the industrial world -- in exchange for a fair settlement of the Middle East conflict and a positive outcome to the north south dialogue, which would require major concessions primarily from the United States.

Failing this, the Saudis might alter their stand and let OPEC's "hardliners" take the initiative and step up their pressure for indexing oil prices to inflation, the observers said.



At the sheep market in Jerusalem, a shepherd pauses, leaning on his staff.

Photos and Text By Gordon N. Converse

The Holy Land of Palestine has been torn by wars and conflict from ancient times right up to the present. Many ancient sites have been destroyed.

Is it possible to bridge 2,000 years and go back today to scenes which formed the living background of the Gospels?

To do this one has to avoid the sectarian shrines, which both commemorate and obliterate so many sites recorded in the Old and New Testaments, and look for remnants that survive with relatively little or no change.

Though the search becomes more difficult every year, it is still possible to find scenes that capture the flavour of the land of Jesus as portrayed in the Scriptures.

"And Joseph... went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child... And she brought forth her firstborn son..." (Luke 2:4-5, 7).

GO BACK  
IN TIME,  
TO SEE THE  
HOLY LAND  
AS IT MAY  
HAVE BEEN  
2,000 YEARS  
AGO...



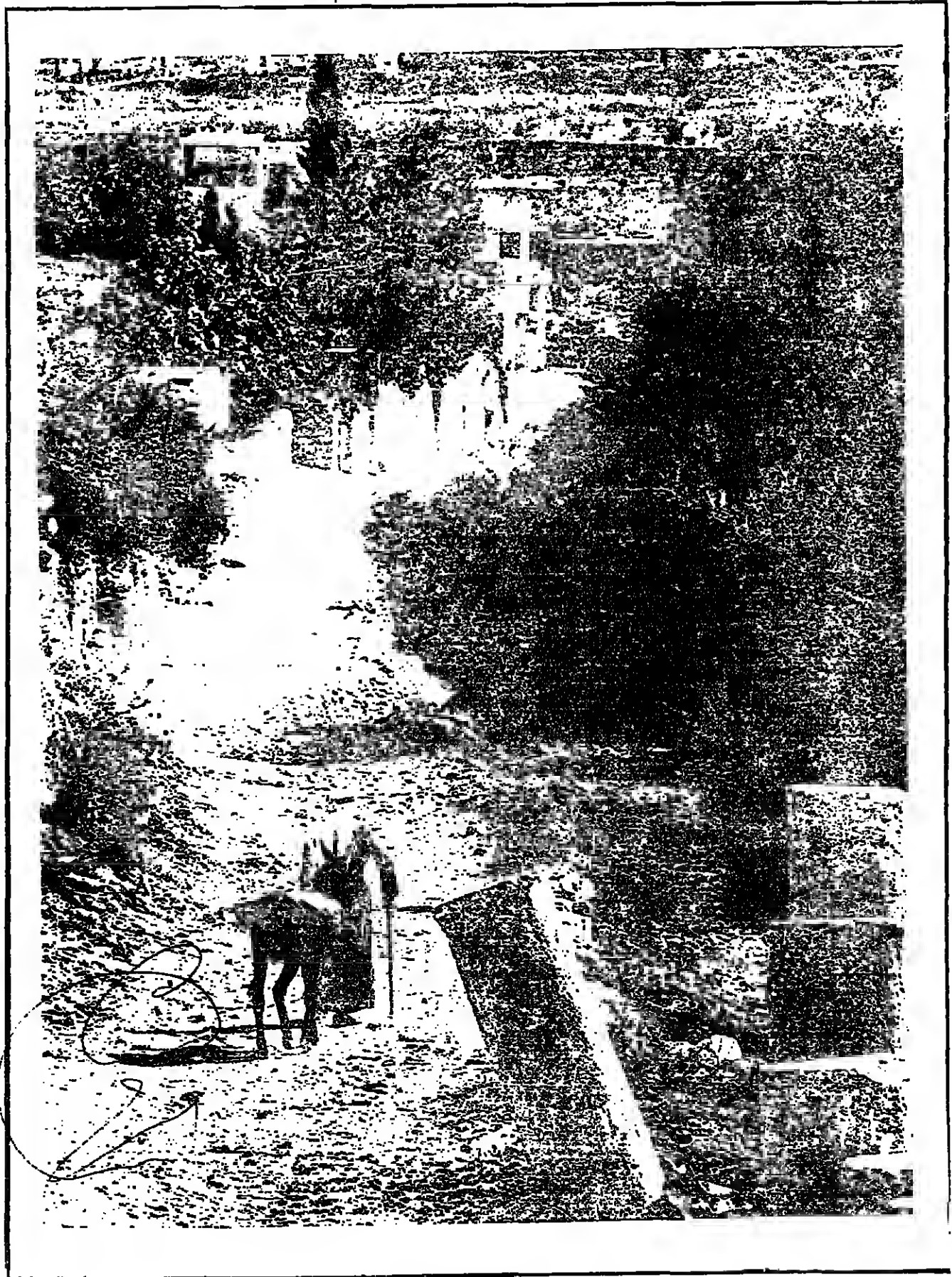
A camel moves through desert area near Jericho on one route between Nazareth and Bethlehem.



Sheep still graze in the valley below Bethlehem some 2,000 years after "there were shepherds abiding in the field..." (Luke 2:8).



Nazareth, in lower Galilee, is a city set on a hill.



Age-old mode of travel along a dusty road on way to Nazareth.



# Brazil faces social unrest if maximum growth remains goal

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — can be illustrated by a series of questions. Because Brazil is the biggest country in Latin America, any problem there diminishes the whole continent and hemisphere. The prognosis, after a visit there, is only its foreign policy decisions that these problems -- social, political, economic and ecological -- are growing more severe. They

potism? Many generals and civilian technocrats attend a one-year course at the Escola Superior de Guerra in Rio de Janeiro to plan the nation's strategy. But the school operates to implement dogmas -- not to think out appropriate solutions. One dogma: "We need the

most capital-intensive technology to compete on world markets." Suggestions that "intermediate technology" might be more cost effective while preserving the environment and creating jobs get no hearing. Thinking big sometimes gets in the way of progress. A Brazilian

agribusiness tried to clear a forest by upending the trees with gigantic bulldozers, an expensive and almost futile effort. A U.S. firm recommended hiring natives to use chain saws. The work was done quickly, creating more employment and producing profits through sale of the lumber.

Technological fetishism has led Brazil to buy a complete nuclear

universities have been

entire of their best social

Germany lists and many other

wasting have fled even when the regime

valuable funds while less than

one-tenth of the country's water

posed by a university specialist

it may do so without ever consid

thing or thinking him

Is Brazil a successful mod

for developing countries? Ye

for it wants that GNP does in

measure the quality of life. Br

all's economy has grown by rate

of five to 10 per cent in recer

decades, but more than half th

population remains hungry an

dearly illiterate. Urban work

are worse off due to inflation th

they were 10-15 years ago.

There is very little "trick

down" effect from such growth

its main beneficiaries are th

upper-middle and upper classe

whose numbers have only slight

expanded.

Brazil's cities, meanwhile, hav

become clouds of industrial an

auto pollution.

Is Brazil an ethnic paradise

No, colour consciousness remain

strong. Whites followed by ma

studies hold the cleaner jobs. Bl

acks still try to "purify" their ra

by mixing with lights.

Is the junta, whatever it

problems, a bastion of anti-con

munism and a friend of the Un

ted States?

Apart from its immediate re

gulation of the MPLA in Ango

and frequent votes with the Th

World at the United Nation

the Brazilian government is st

utty pro-U.S. Privately, the For

ign Ministry endorses U.S.-Sov

detente, though doubts are rais

publicly about caving in to Mo

cow.

The junta justified its repre

sion by anti-communist slogan

but failure to improve the lot.

Brazil's masses could prov

more coups and, some day, a so

ial revolution.

Brazil's policies on nucle

power and its opposition to t

nuclear non-proliferation trea

could help provoke a hemispher

arms race with Argentina.

## RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)

7:00 Breakfast show  
7:30 News bulletin  
7:40 Morning melodies  
8:00 Sign off  
12:00 Pop session part I  
13:00 News summary  
13:05 Pop session part II  
14:00 News bulletin  
14:15 Radio magazine  
14:30 Comedy

15:00 Concert hour

16:00 Old favourites  
16:30 Easy listening  
17:00 Special feature  
17:30 Pop session part III  
18:00 News summary  
18:05 Pop session part IV  
18:30 Pop music USA (rep)  
19:00 News bulletin  
19:10 Music  
19:30 Sign off

## AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:

8:00 Cairo (EA)  
8:30 Bangkok, Bahrain  
8:40 Dhahran, Kuwait  
8:50 Baghdad  
11:15 Beirut  
11:25 Rawalpindi (BA)  
16:00 Kuwait (KAC)  
17:10 London (BA)  
17:40 Copenhagen, Vienna  
18:15 Rome  
18:55 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)  
19:15 Cairo  
20:20 Riyadh (SDI)

Departures:

6:10 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (Lufthansa)  
8:00 Beirut  
8:45 Cairo (EA)  
8:45 Rome  
10:00 Athens, Madrid, Casablanca  
12:10 London (BA)  
12:30 Paris  
12:45 Cairo  
16:45 Kuwait (KAC)  
19:00 Abu Dhabi, Bangkok  
21:30 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) ... Tel. 75111  
Civil defence rescue ... " 24391-4  
Fire headquarters ... " 22090  
First aid, fire, police ... " 19  
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) ... " 36381-2  
Municipal water service (emergency) ... " 37111-3  
Police headquarters ... " 39141  
Najdeb, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help ... " 21111, 37777

## Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS) ... Tel. 41520  
British Council ... " 36147-8  
French Cultural Centre ... " 37009  
Goethe Institute ... " 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre ... " 44203  
Amman Municipal Library ... " 36111

## BBC RADIO

GMT

05:00 News; 24 hours  
05:30 Composer of the week  
05:45 The World Today  
06:00 News; Press Review  
06:30 Baker's Half-Dozen  
07:00 News; 24 hours  
07:30 Composer of the week  
07:45 Wars that changed the World  
08:00 News  
08:15 The Sound of ...  
08:30 Farming World  
09:00 News; UK Press Review  
09:15 The World Today  
09:30 Financial News  
09:45 Music Now  
10:15 Wales '76  
10:30 This was 1976  
11:00 News  
11:15 Biology of a lifetime  
11:30 Reith Lecture  
12:00 Radio Newsreel  
12:15 Top Twenty  
12:45 Sports Round-up  
13:00 News; 24 hours

13:30 Don't Miss  
13:45 Radio Theatre  
14:30 Matthew on Music  
15:00 Radio Newsreel  
15:15 Outlook  
16:00 News; Commentary  
16:15 Your Verdict  
16:45 The World Today  
17:00 News  
17:09 This was 1976  
17:40 Book Choice  
17:45 Sports Round-up  
18:00 News; Radio Newsreel  
18:30 Baker's Half-Dozen  
19:00 News; Outlook  
19:42 Stock Market  
19:45 Best is Black  
20:00 World News; 24 hours  
20:30 A Jolly Good Show  
21:15 This was 1976  
21:45 Paperbacks  
22:00 News; The World Today  
22:25 Financial News  
22:35 Gilbert and Sullivan  
22:45 Sports Round-up  
23:00 News; Commentary

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:

6:00 Quran  
6:05 Cartoons  
6:30 On we go  
7:00 Time to remember  
8:00 News in Arabic

Channel 3:

7:30 Science and life  
8:30 Arabic series

9:15 Quiz programme

10:00 Play

Channel 6:

7:30 News in Hebrew  
7:45 Varieties  
8:30 Bless this house  
9:10 Sixth sense  
10:00 News in English  
10:15 Petrocelli

## EMERGENCIES

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Dr. Y. Smour " 63254  
Irbid:  
Dr. Z. Abdul Hadi  
Dr. K. Khaza'leh  
Zarqa:  
Dr. M. Fayyad  
**Pharmacies:**  
Amman:  
Habayah Tel. 44930  
Sha'ban " 36726

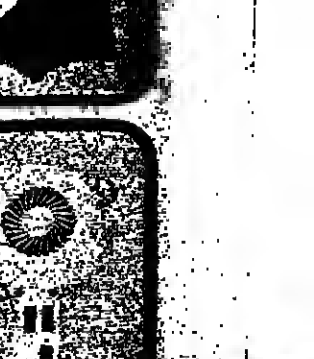
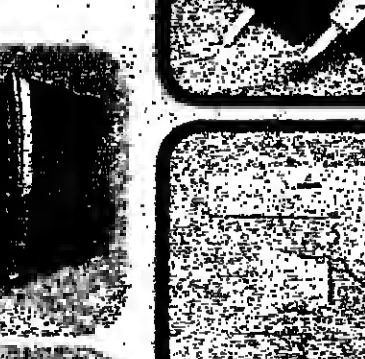
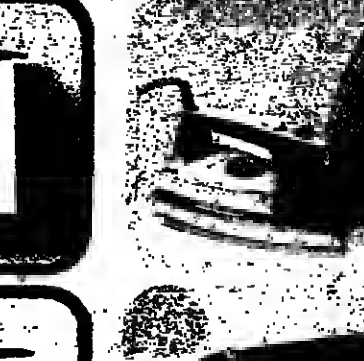
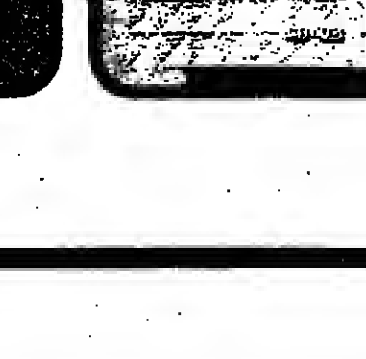
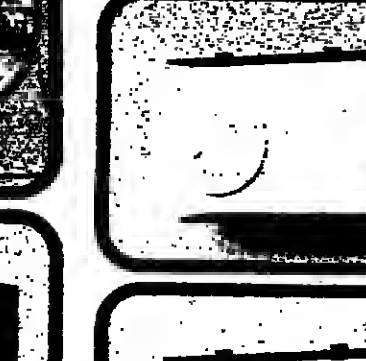
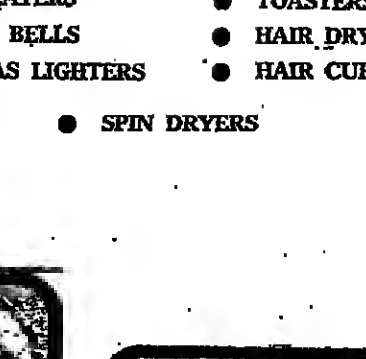
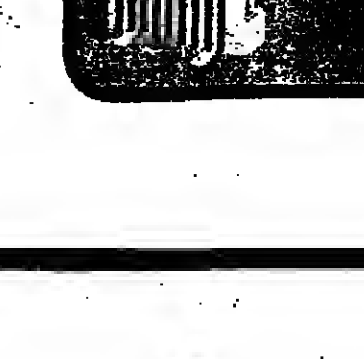
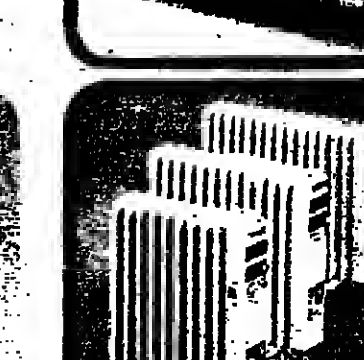
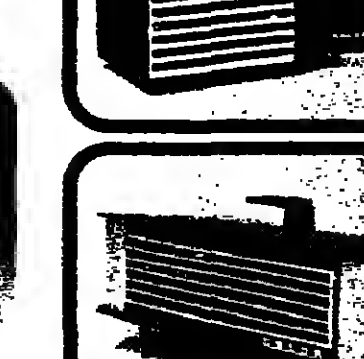
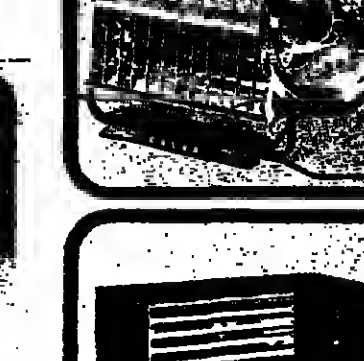
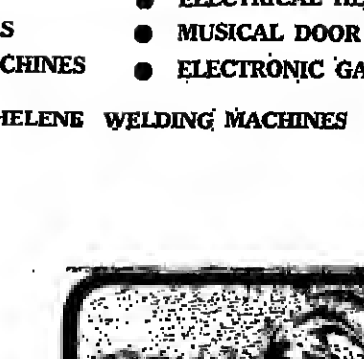
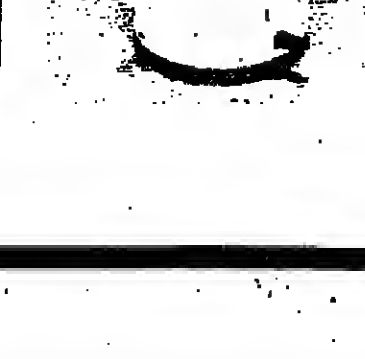
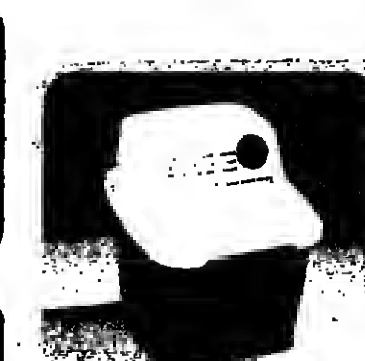
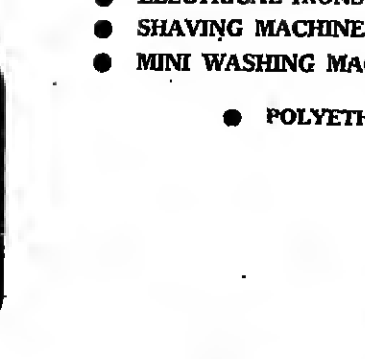
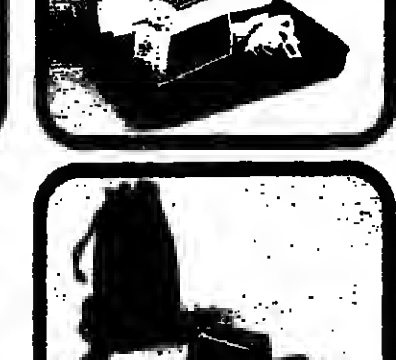
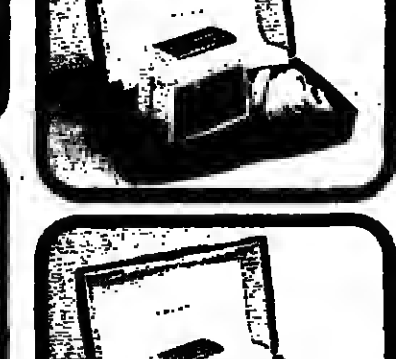
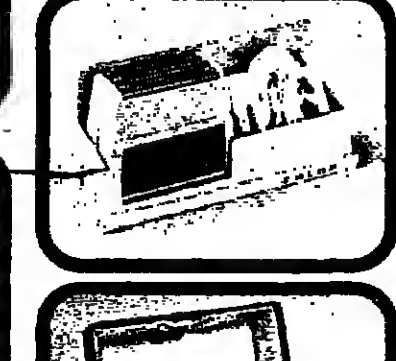
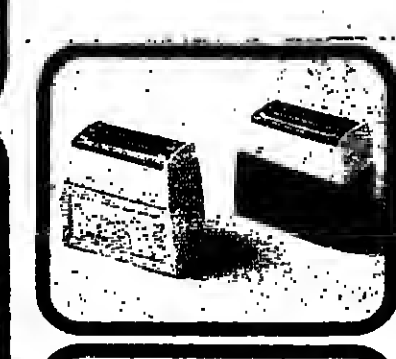
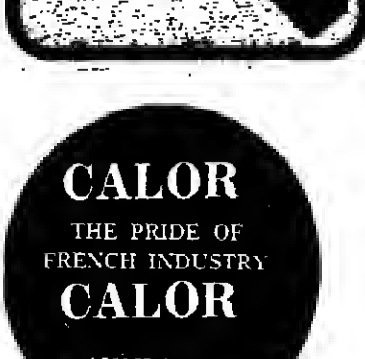
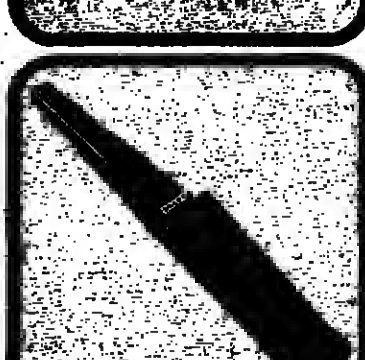
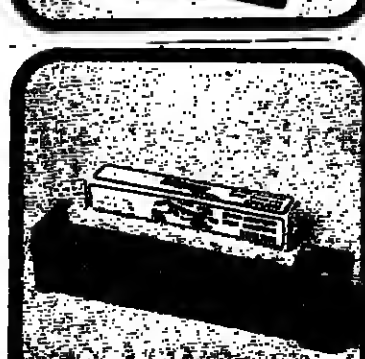
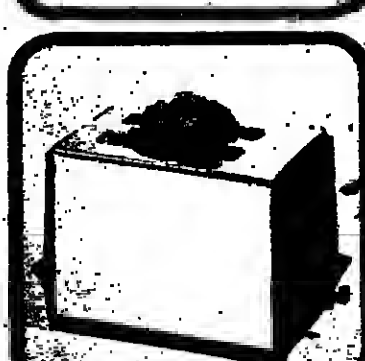
## EMERGENCIES

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كلابن الاصل



## Notorious "peaceman" to sail Suez Canal

TEL AVIV, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Middle East "peace-campaigner" Abbe Nathan will try to sail through the Suez Canal on New Year's Day aboard his converted radio ship Shalom. The 49-year-old former El Al pilot, who holds dual Israeli-British nationality, told a press conference here today that he had sent Egyptian President Anwar Sadat a 750-word cable explaining his plan. "I haven't had an answer, which I consider as tacit approval," said Mr. Nathan, who has already made two unauthorized "peace plane" landings on Egyptian territory. Once through the canal, Mr. Nathan said he would dock the Panamanian-registered Shalom — the name means peace in Hebrew — at ports in Agaba (Jordan) and Eilat (Israel). The Shalom has been anchored off the coast of Israel for the last four years, broadcasting soft music and appeals for peace in English, Arabic and Hebrew. There are no Israelis among its 16-member crew. An earlier attempt by Mr. Nathan to traverse the Suez canal was rejected by Egyptian authorities on the grounds that he had no business agent in the country. This time he has hired an agent.

## China's criticism of "gang of four" takes on a more economic flavour

HONG KONG, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Intellectuals in China's Kwangtung Province have pledged full efforts to carry forward the "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution," Radio Canton reported. In a broadcast monitored here the radio said the intellectuals had held three-day meetings organized by the United Front Department of the Kwangtung Provincial Communist Party Committee. They represented cultural, educational, scientific and technological circles. A resolution passed at the meeting said: "We must persist in taking the road of integrating with the workers, peasants and soldiers, pointed out by Chairman Mao. In the three great revolutions we must make great efforts to transform our world outlook and together with the masses of workers and peasants further develop and consolidate the victorious fruits of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, contribute our efforts to the movements of learning from Tachai in agriculture and from Taching in industry, and to socialist revolution and construction." Radio Canton said the intellectuals also "indignantly exposed

and criticised the towering crimes of the "gang of four" and pledged: "We will resolutely unite very closely around the party centre headed by Chairman Hua Kuofeng, seriously study Marxist-Leninist works and Chairman Mao's works and series of instructions on criticism of the gang of four, and with firm stand and clear banners, struggle against the gang of four to the end." Other provincial radio broadcasts report unabated criticism of the four — Madame Chiang Ching, Mr. Wang Hung-wen, Mr. Chang Chun-chiao and Mr. Yao Wen-yuan. Even children are taking part in this verbal onslaught. Wuhan Radio reporting that in a single commune in Hupeh Province as many as 40,000 children had made "big efforts" to condemn the four. Radio Wuhan also quoted an editorial in the Hupeh Daily which stressed the need to understand the ideological meaning of the struggle against the four. The paper said, "in order to unfold in depth the struggle to expose and criticise the gang of four, at present we must, more than on any previous occasion,

read and study still more seriously and grasp firmly the ideological weapons. "Only by so doing can we understand that the struggle to smash the gang of four is a great practice of Chairman Mao's great theory on continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, understand in depth the nature and significance of this struggle and enhance our spontaneity for struggle." On another front, China has made known its intention to import industrial equipment and technology once the necessary funds are available. Indications of this were contained in an official press report today on the recent opening of a chemical fertiliser plant in the Taching oil centre in northeastern China. One of the largest in China, its annual capacity is equivalent to one million tons of natural fertiliser. The New China News Agency (NCNA) described the situation before the members of the "gang of four" were ousted from power last October. The agency said: "Some of the installations of the plant were

imported," an admission the Chinese press would never had made before. Madame Chiang Ching and her accomplices at first agreed to use the imported equipment at Taching, but while the plant was being built, they suddenly ordered the immediate dismantling of the foreign equipment. When it was pointed out that Chairman Mao and Premier Chou En-lai had personally approved the imports, Madame Chiang Ching reportedly answered: "Don't try to overawe me with the name of Chairman Mao." The Taching workers and technicians stood their ground, however, and based on their study of Mao Tse-tung's quotation: "Relying mainly on our own efforts while making external assistance subsidiary," they adopted the position: "We stand for self-reliance but this does not mean adopting a closed door policy," NCNA continued. In order, to better apply Chairman Mao's instructions to improve and adopt foreign technology for China, "all imported installations were dismantled and carefully examined. Parts of the blueprints were revised because they bore errors or did not suit China's conditions." In that way the plant benefited from the necessary foreign technology by absorbing the "essence" but rejecting the "dross", NCNA concluded.



OUR MAN IN LONDON — His Excellency Salah Abu Zeid, Jordan's Ambassador to Britain, enters a State Landau for the traditional ride to Buckingham Palace, London, where he presented his Letters of Credence to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Accompanying him is the Honourable Sir Michael Fitzalan-Howard, Marshal of Britain's Diplomatic Corps. (BIS photo).

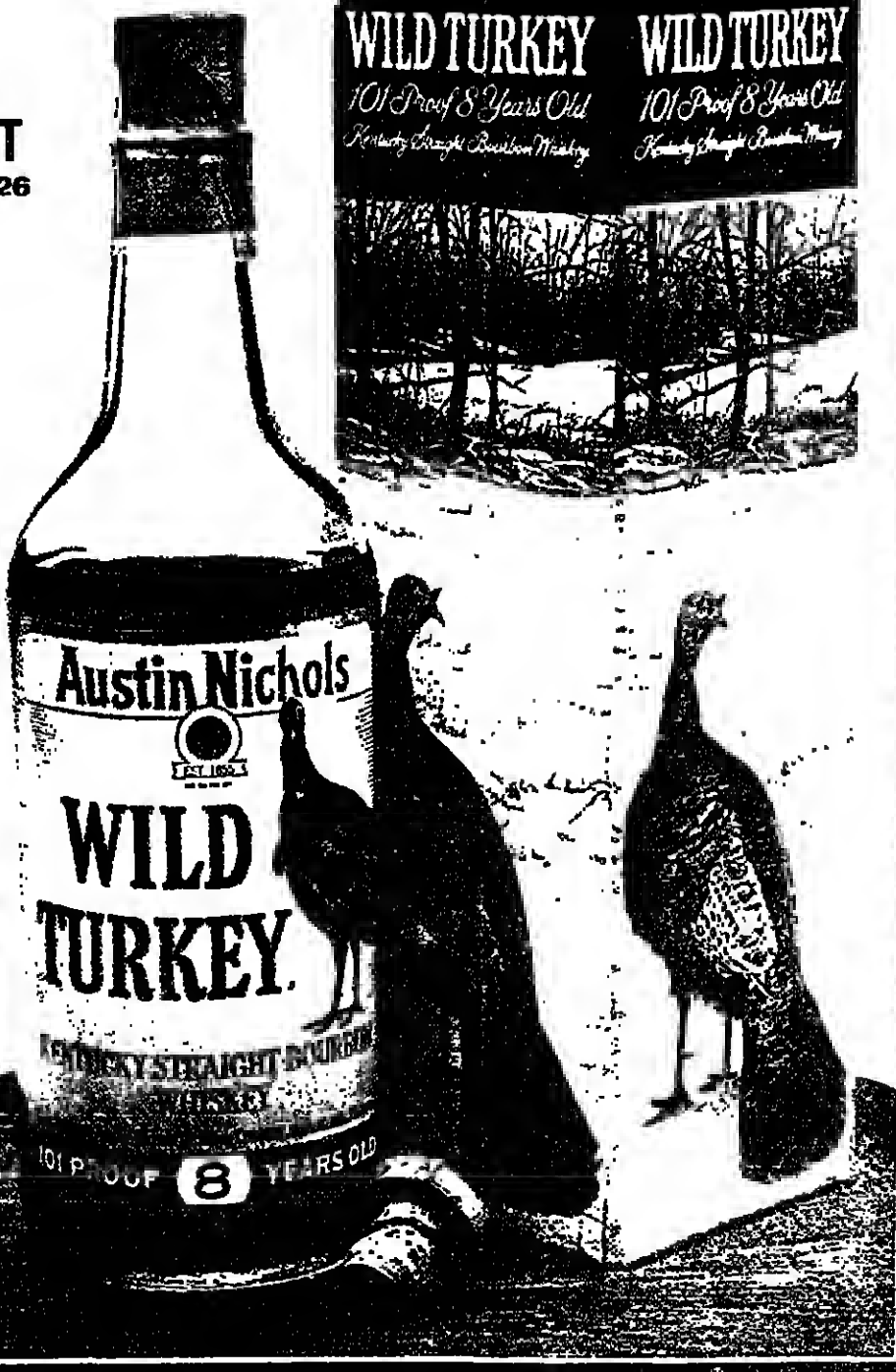
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## Angolan refugees end 7-month trek

MAKENI REFUGEE CAMP, Zambia, Dec. 29 (R). — Fugitives of the Angolan civil war sheltered from tropical rains in this temporary refugee camp today after a seven-month trek hundreds of kilometres across the bush. They fled their homes as troops of the Cuban-supported MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) crushed two pro-Western groups in the fighting. "We were in the bush for seven months," said one of the refugees, junior official in Angola's former Portuguese colonial government who asked not to be named. "We traded our clothes for food in the villages. We were cut off from our own homes," he said. "We could eat fruit from the trees and catch fish in the rivers... but three children in our group died of fever as we went."

The civil war ended about nine months ago, but since then one of the defeated liberation groups, UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) has started a guerrilla campaign against the ruling MPLA and their Cuban supporters. Another refugee, 21-year-old Mr. Hudson Petepete told a Zambia Daily Mail reporter many people were still dying in continued heavy fighting between the pro-Western UNITA and the Soviet-backed MPLA and the Cubans. But English-speaking refugees told Western correspondents visiting this camp 10 kms. outside Lusaka that they had seen no fighting since the MPLA took the southern Angolan cities that were their homes. The fugitives, many dressed in ragged city clothes, appeared lean

but adequately fed. Teenage girls crouched over cooking pots of beans, small fish and meal porridge as the smoke from their smouldering fires drifted through the tent and shelter camp and barefooted children awaited their food. "Some of my friends saw the Cubans. They even spoke to them. But others ran away as the Cubans came," one refugee said. The latest influx brings to 16,000 the number of Angolan refugees in Zambia. According to official statistics most of them fled several years ago to escape fighting between liberation groups and Portuguese forces. About 2,800 more came during the civil war that followed independence in November last year. The rest filtered across following reports of continuing MPLA-UNITA clashes.

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# Soviet President Podgorny's visit to S. African "front-line" states will launch new initiative

## Brezhnev wants speedy conclusion of strategic arms accord with U.S.

MOSCOW, Dec. 29 (R). — Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny is to visit Zambia, Tanzania, and Mozambique in the new year with the likely aim of launching a fresh diplomatic initiative by the Kremlin in Southern Africa.

African diplomatic sources here who yesterday disclosed plans for the trip, said the 73-year-old Soviet leader is expected in Zambia in the second half of March.

Moscow has loudly criticised efforts by the U.S. and Britain to mediate in the Rhodesia crisis. But at the same time it has found itself watching from the sidelines while the two Western State Henry Kissinger.

Exact dates for Mr. Podgorny's visits to the three African countries are still being worked out and an official announcement probably will be made next month, the diplomatic sources said.

President Podgorny has visited Somalia but, like the other members of the Soviet leadership, he has never been in Southern Africa.

The decision to arrange the first Southern African tour by one of the Kremlin's "top three" was apparently taken in response to such Western activities as last September's diplomatic shuttle between the U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Mr. Podgorny could be in Southern Africa while the Geneva talks on Rhodesia's future, due to resume next month, are still in progress.

But, although Moscow has accused the U.S. and Britain of defending the interests of "racist" regimes in Southern Africa, his trip is thought likely to have broader aims than merely encouraging opposition to a British-sponsored Rhodesia settlement.

Western diplomats said Mr. Podgorny's main purpose in visiting three of the so-called "front-line states" would be to underline Soviet interest in closer ties with the countries of Southern Africa, particularly after black majority

rule is established in Rhodesia.

Moscow has faced strong competition for influence in the area from China, which has concentrated its aid programme on Tanzania. This is thought to have been another major factor behind the latest Soviet move.

It will be the first top-level contact between Moscow and Dar Es Salaam, but Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda and Mozambique President Samora Machel have both been to Moscow.

In Nairobi, observers said that news of the planned visit by President Podgorny would be received with intense interest by political leaders in East Africa. So far there has been no official

reaction from Kenya, Uganda or Tanzania to the Moscow development. But President Idi Amin of Uganda was expected to give a quick welcome to the forthcoming visit, even though there was no indication from Moscow that Mr. Podgorny planned to visit Uganda.

Uganda has a close relationship with the Soviet Union, and has received large quantities of military equipment from that country since President Amin seized power in 1971.

Diplomatic sources in Lusaka said the Soviet president's visit had been planned for earlier in 1977, but had been postponed for unspecified reasons.

BOSTON, Massachusetts, Dec. 29 (AP). — The Soviet Union favours the "earliest possible completion" of new Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with the United States, according to Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev in a written interview with the Boston Herald American newspaper published here today.

Replying to written questions, Mr. Brezhnev said that talks should be held on the basis of the Vladivostok agreement of 1974 which provides for limitations on nuclear weapons and in particular on multiple-warheaded missiles.

"On our part, there was not, is not and will not be any obstacles to this, which is a matter of concern to all mankind," he said.

Mr. Brezhnev said that "certain circles" in the United States and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) were militating for an increase in military expenditure.

The Soviet Union, he said, had no intention of attacking any country.

Mr. Brezhnev's remarks follow a highly alarmist report by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) that the Soviet Union no longer intends to maintain military equality with the United States but is now seeking military superiority.

Mr. Brezhnev ended by extending his personal greetings for the new year and those of the Soviet people.

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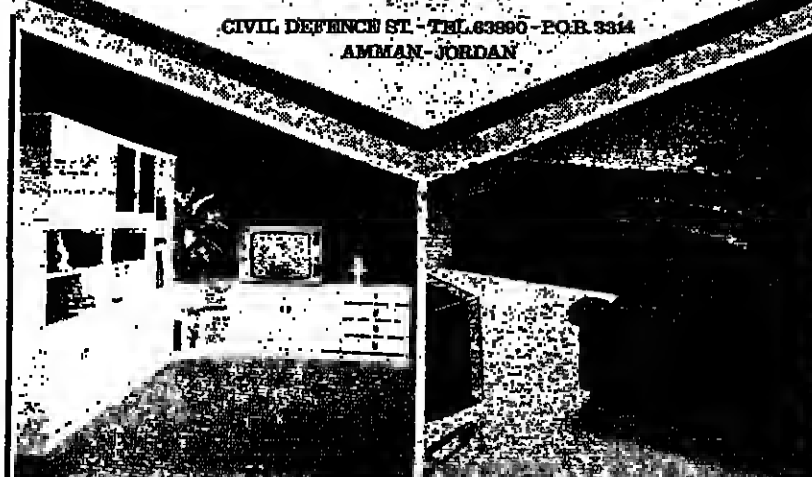
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Any photographs sent by mail have to be retrieved in person, and photographs used or bought by the Jordan Times will become the property of the Jordan Times.

هكذا من الاصل







## Report says 300 blacks held without trial in S. Africa

PRETORIA, Dec. 29 (R). — Police today announced the release of the last of 102 blacks held under South Africa's sweeping Internal Security Act during the racial unrest that broke out six months ago.

But more than 300 other blacks are still detained without trial under other security laws, according to the Independent Institute of Race Relations.

In Cape Town, meanwhile, police reinforcements patrolled black townships ravaged by Christmas violence.

Tension still ran high in the townships of Guguletu and Nyanga but no further clashes were reported between migrant workers and the militant black students who tried to enforce a "black Christmas" of mourning for the victims of police bullets.

Three days of clashes in the townships over Christmas left 24 dead and 106 badly wounded as well as widespread damage, including at least 170 houses destroyed or damaged by fire.

Police said the situation was back to normal in the Langa black township where police shot dead two blacks among a crowd of 500 who stoned them on Monday night.

### Kissinger chooses agent to handle sale of memoirs

NEW YORK, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Dr. Henry Kissinger has chosen literary agent Marvin Josephson to negotiate the sale of his potentially lucrative memoirs, Mr. Josephson's firm announced here today.

A dozen publishing houses are rumored to have offered up to \$3 million for the right to print the out-going secretary of state's memoirs in the United States and up to \$2 million more to publish his book in Europe.

The company headed by Mr. Josephson, International Creative Management, represents clients including actor Sir Laurence Olivier, and playwrights Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams.

### Syrian source confirms rights restored to Jews

DAMASCUS, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Syria has lifted the restrictions imposed since 1948 on its Jewish community, official sources confirmed here today.

"Syrian Jews will from now on be placed on an equal footing with other citizens and enjoy the same rights and obligations," the source said. These benefits would apply to foreign travel (forbidden to Syrian Jews for nearly 30 years) and to the right to senior jobs in the civil service, the source added.

The Jewish Community Council was recently advised of this decision at a meeting with government representatives, the source said.

The Syrian government imposed restrictions on the Jewish community after the first Arab-Israeli war and the founding of the state of Israel in 1948. Syrian authorities say, however, that Jews were able to travel within the country, worship in their synagogues, attend university, learn Hebrew and hold minor jobs in the civil service. Only foreign travel and top government jobs were forbidden them for security reasons.

In Tel Aviv, the newspaper Yedioth Aharonoth carried an article today predicting that if the reports prove correct more than 90 per cent of the Jewish population in Syria would emigrate.

It is being recalled here that Syrian President Hafez Assad had promised a relaxation of restrictions to U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

The Maariv newspaper saw the reported move as a Palestinian-inspired gesture to persuade Arab Jews to leave Israel and return to their home countries.

### LONDON MARKET REPORT

The stock exchange held very steady Wednesday in limited trading immediately following the long Christmas holidays.

Helping to support the trend was the performance of Wall Street during London's closure and the strength of sterling, at a three month "high" on the foreign exchange.

B.P. was particularly susceptible to the U.S. market moving up strongly, accompanied by Shell.

Gilts found favour on hopes of still lower interest rates, with gains of around half-a-point (50 pence).

Top industrials to move ahead included Glaxo, ICI and Courtaulds.

Banks were also firm, although Hong Kong Shanghai failed to move.

Insurances and properties were featureless.

The F.T. index was up 2.7 at 346.1.

Gold relinquished early gains despite the rally on the billion market. Tins and platinum went ahead, but De Beers (diamonds) was dull.

Plantations were barely changed, while among other Far Easters, Jardine Matheson gained ground but Sime Darby eased.

The Japanese list was unchanged.



**FINANCIER'S BAIL** — Paris-based financier Shmuel Flatto arrives to court in occupied Jerusalem Tuesday with his wife Anik where he was ordered to pay the highest bail in Israeli history (\$1.1 million). Mr. Flatto was arrested Friday at the request of French authorities which accuse him of tax evasion. (AP wirephoto).

### Soares' rule secured with "yes" vote

LISBON, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Premier Mario Soares today assured a future for his Socialist government by winning parliamentary approval for a 1977 economic plan, amid sharp attack from the Employers' Confederation.

The Socialist leader won a budget and planning vote because the Communists and Centre Party abstained. Mr. Soares had warned that defeat could bring down the government.

The parties who abstained feared that the next government, in the event of defeat, would be further to the right.

In the final stages of the parliamentary debate, the Portuguese Employers' Confederation made a clear bid for more elbow room, describing the 1977 plan as "a first step in the wrong direction."

The confederation called for tax reductions to help private companies balance their account and undertake investment, and urged cuts in public spending.

It rejected the idea that the public sector was "the motive force of the economy" and said priority should be given to the private sector.

The confederation attacked a ban on private interests in banking and insurance, adding that if Portugal became a member of the European Economic Community this interdiction would have to be abandoned.

### Iran-Italy oil deal underway, Shah invited to invest in Fiat

ROME, Dec. 29 (Agencies). — Iran and Italy are about to conclude an oil deal for refining and distribution in Europe (except Italy) and in Africa, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Rinaldo Ossola confirmed today.

In an interview published by the newspaper La Repubblica, he said negotiations were nearing completion and the deal should be signed early next year.

The expected agreement was disclosed this week by the Shah of Iran in the Milan newspaper Il Giornale Nuovo. He mentioned the setting up of a joint company by Italy's ENI and the National Iranian Oil Company.

In a related development, Fiat Chairman Gianni Agnelli was quoted by La Repubblica today as saying the motor company would welcome investment by the Shah of Iran.

Fiat recently accepted an infusion of \$415 million by Libya. Il Giornale Nuovo said yesterday the Shah had told it in an interview that Iran's previous offers to invest in Fiat had been turned down by Signor Agnelli.

La Repubblica said Signor Agnelli confirmed the Shah had made an offer several years ago and that turning it down was "probably a mistake".

He said that if the Iranians were still interested, he would welcome an agreement on similar terms to those concluded with Libya.

### Brezhnev welcomes summit with Carter

MOSCOW, Dec. 29 (Agencies). — Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev has welcomed the prospect of a summit meeting with incoming U.S. President Jimmy Carter, the official Tass news agency said today.

The history of U.S.-Soviet relations, Tass quoted Mr. Brezhnev as saying, "has shown the usefulness and fruitfulness of summit meetings when each of the participants seeks a constructive, businesslike dialogue."

In a related development the Soviet Union today welcomed a statement Mr. Carter that he hoped to conclude a new bilateral accord limiting strategic arms before the current SALT agreement expires next October.

Tass today quoted the Soviet foreign affairs weekly Novoye Vremya (New Times) as saying a new SALT agreement would have "major importance in consolidating world peace."

In other developments Lebanese President Elias Sarkis will be one of the first Arab heads of state to meet Mr. Carter after his installation as U.S. president next month, informed sources said in Beirut today.

The newspaper Al Ahrar, organ of the rightwing National Liberal Party led by Mr. Camille Chamoun, reported there had been discreet contacts between Beirut and Washington to arrange a visit to the United States by Mr. Sarkis.

Mr. Carter disclosed today that Atlanta lawyer Robert Lipshutz will be his White House Counsel.

Mr. Carter revealed the appointment of Mr. Lipshutz, 55, in a re-

## Policeman organised de Broglie killing

PARIS, Dec. 29 (R). — French Interior Minister Michel Poniatowksi said today a police inspector organised the assassination of former government minister Prince Jean de Broglie.

M. Poniatowski was speaking at a press conference at which he named six men, including the inspector, arrested in connection with the killing.

Also included were two business partners of the 58-year-old prince, who was gunned down in a Paris street on Christmas Eve.

The prince's alleged assassin was identified as a 31-year-old minor underworld figure.

Police Director Jean Ducret, at

### Czech paper praises loyalty to Moscow of Israeli Communists

PRAGUE, Dec. 29 (R). — Israel's small Rakah Communist Party has won praise from Czechoslovakia today as one of few communist groups outside the Soviet bloc still accepting Moscow's leadership.

The Czechoslovak Communist daily Rude Pravo said the Israeli party's recent congress showed a sincere relationship to the Soviet Union and Socialist countries.

Rude Pravo said the Israeli party recognised the Soviet party as "the vanguard of the international communist and workers' movement."

Israeli Communists saw this as "an expression of the internationalist attitude of every party, and as proof of their political line in relation to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism."

Although the Soviet Union has dropped its claims to the "leading role" in the world communist movement, Soviet bloc ideologists have recently made clear that loyalty to Moscow is still regarded as a touchstone of proletarian solidarity.

The Israeli party congress was the first non-ruling communist congress to go on record with acknowledgement of the Soviet Union's "vanguard" position since this formula was officially abandoned by a conference of 29 European Communist Parties in East Berlin last June.

Despite abandonment of the concept as formal doctrine, it is still widely used in the East European Soviet bloc. The Israeli party has been "traditionally loyal to Moscow," and Soviet bloc delegations attended its congress in Haifa two weeks ago.

### WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

● TEL AVIV, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Israel's biggest military manoeuvres since the 1973 war began in Sinai today. All services were taking part in the exercise which featured the crossing of simulated obstacles, including waterways, and coordination between tanks and planes.

● PARIS, Dec. 29 (R). — French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing will pay an official four-day visit to Saudi Arabia beginning on Jan. 23, it was officially announced here today. Presidential aides emphasised the importance of the visit in the light of Saudi Arabia's recent decision at an OPEC meeting to limit its oil price increase to five per cent.

● NICOSIA, Dec. 29 (AFP). — New evidence has recently come to light concerning the killing in August 1974 of United States Ambassador Roger Davies during a riot outside the U.S. embassy, an official spokesman said today. The spokesman was unable to say whether any arrests would be made, but said that the case would be handed over to the justice department which would decide on any action to be taken.

● ADDIS ABABA, Dec. 29 (R). — Ethiopia announced tonight that it was reorganising its ruling military council -- known as the Dergue. Radio Addis Ababa made the announcement before starting on the preamble of proclamations which were expected to involve the creation of a smaller central group within the Dergue, which now numbers about 60 members.

● NICOSIA, Dec. 29 (AFP). — Fifty-nine Greek Cypriots were today expelled from their villages in the Turkish-controlled zone of Cyprus toward the Greek Cypriot sector. Among the 59 were the last seven inhabitants of the village of Melanarga, on the north-eastern coast of the island. Today's expulsions brought to 190 the number of Greek Cypriots transferred to the southern zone since Monday.

● VIENNA, Dec. 29 (R). — The Albanian parliament unanimously approved a new constitution under which it would be illegal for Albanians ever to surrender to a foreign power. The Albanian news agency ATA reported from Tirana that the constitution was adopted yesterday. The document reflects Communist Albania's unrelenting policy of isolation. It bans the stationing of foreign troops on Albanian soil and forbids Albanians to accept military defeat.

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